

I wish to make a complaint. I feel that a local station, KSMO (WB 62 here KCMO), which is affiliated with the Sinclair Broadcasting Corporation will not serve our community by complying with Sinclair Broadcasting's mandate to air the partisan anti-Kerry program, "Stolen Honor" without airing an balancing program such as "Going Upriver" shortly after the negative program. Stations using the public airwaves should not be mandated to favor one candidate over another by their parent companies.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.